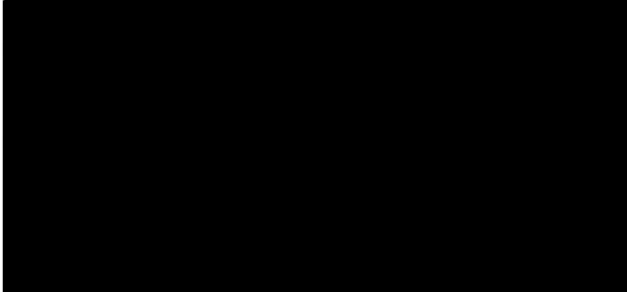


13 May 2021



Re: Official Information Act request – Intersex children having genital surgery

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 7 April 2021, requesting the following information:

- 1. I was hoping to grab some information around how many intersex children have had genital surgery within their first year of life?**
- 2. Could I please have this from 2016 to 2021, broken down into the number each year and the overall number for the past five years.**

There were no children with Disorders of Sexual Differentiation (DSD) who had genital surgery within the first year of life over that time period.

- 3. Could I also request whether or not the surgery was medically necessary or whether it was cosmetic, the gender of child as recorded on their birth certificate and the total cost per year of the surgeries**

Genital/urological surgery in childhood is only done at Starship Hospital for medical and functional reasons. We do not perform surgery for specifically cosmetic reasons for children with normal genetics or those with an intersex condition. The management priorities for urogenital disorders are to protect renal function, prevent urine infections, achieve continence, and preserve potential for future fertility and sexual function. These principles guide surgical and medical decision making at all ages.

- 4. Could I also request how many referrals have been made to other DHBs for intersex babies in their first year of life looking for the surgery in other DHB regions. Could I please have this from 2016 to 2021, broken down into the number each year and the overall number for the past five years.**

No child has been referred from ADHB to other DHBs for surgical management.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE

Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)